

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: James B. Terry and § GROUP ART UNIT:  
Thomas P. Wilson § Not Yet Assigned  
§  
SERIAL NO.: Not Yet Assigned § EXAMINER:  
§ Not Yet Assigned  
FILED: Concurrently Herewith §  
§  
FOR: Well System §

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Prelam  
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11/08/01

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Atty. Dkt. No.: 1391-10210  
Date: July 18, 2001

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments before calculating the filing fee for this application:

In the Specification

Please amend the specification by deleting the referenced paragraph and replacing it with the corresponding amended paragraph below. A copy of the amended paragraph with deletions bracketed and additions underlined is appended hereto.

Delete the paragraph on page 1 under the heading "CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS:" and replace it with the following:

This is a continuation application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/081,961, filed May 20, 1998 and entitled "Well System," which claims the benefit of 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/063,326, filed October 27, 1999 and entitled "Drilling System", both hereby incorporated herein by reference.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 4-6, 8, 9, 14, and 16.